

KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS



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FEATURING:

- ◆ Agricultural Prices
- ◆ Cold Storage
- ◆ Livestock Slaughter
- ◆ Farm Labor
- ◆ Chicken & Eggs
- ◆ Cattle on Feed
- ◆ Milk Production

GRAIN PRICES UP, LIVESTOCK PRICES DOWN

Kentucky farmers received higher prices for their grain at mid-November while receiving lower prices for their livestock.

Mid-November prices for **steers and heifers** 500 lbs. and over averaged \$72.00 per cwt., \$5.00 less than last month while \$10.00 less than last year. Prices received were the lowest they had been since September, 1999. **Beefcow** prices received averaged \$36.00 per cwt. making this the lowest price since last December. This was \$1.00 below last month and last year. **Calves** under 500 lbs. were \$83.00 per cwt. at mid-November, \$5.00 below last month, \$11.00 below November, 2000 and the lowest price in 2 years.

Prices received for **barrows & gilts** averaged \$33.00 per cwt. at mid-November, \$5.00 below last month and \$1.00 below a year ago. Prices were the lowest they had been in 2 years. **Sow** prices averaged \$29.00 per cwt. \$3.00 below last month while unchanged from last year.

All wholesale milk prices averaged 30 cents below last month at \$16.40 per cwt. Prices were \$1.90 above last year while the lowest in 7 months.

The **all corn** price received at mid-November averaged \$1.95 per bushel. This was up 7 cents from last month while down 9 cents from November a year ago. Corn prices have been below the \$2.00 range for the past 3 months. Prices received for **soybeans** averaged \$4.30 per bushel, 5 cents above last month while 25 cents below last year's price of \$4.55. **Winter wheat** prices were 15 cents above last month at \$2.55 per bushel. This was 41 cents above last year. Wheat prices were at their highest level in 3 months.

The preliminary **U.S.** All Farms Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in November was 93 based on 1990-92=100, down 1 point (1.0 percent) from the October Index. Lower prices for milk, cattle, hogs, broilers, cotton, and apples more than offset higher prices for soybeans, potatoes, eggs, strawberries, and wheat. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall index. Higher seasonal marketings of milk, cotton, cattle, cottonseed, and broilers more than offset lower marketings of soybeans, peanuts, and potatoes.

Compared with November 2000, the current All Farm Products Index was 5 points (5.1 percent) lower. Price decreases from November 2000 for cattle, lettuce, soybeans, eggs, and rice more than offset increases in potatoes, hay, broilers, and wheat.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY		US	
		NOV 2000	OCT 2001	NOV 2001	NOV 2001
		Entire Month		Mid-Month a/	
All Corn b/ c/	Bu.	2.04	1.88	1.95	1.85
Soybeans b/	Bu.	4.55	4.25	4.30	4.18
Winter Wheat b/	Bu.	2.14	2.40	2.55	2.90
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	110.00	95.00	105.00	106.00
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	72.00	55.00	61.00	74.10
All Hogs	Cwt.	33.80	37.80	32.80	34.90
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	34.00	38.00	33.00	35.20
Sows	Cwt.	29.00	32.00	29.00	29.10
All Beef Cattle d/	Cwt.	71.20	67.40	63.40	62.80
Steers & Heifers e/	Cwt.	82.00	77.00	72.00	66.60
Cows	Cwt.	37.00	37.00	36.00	35.30
Calves f/	Cwt.	94.00	88.00	83.00	96.20
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	14.50	16.70	16.40	14.30
Fluid g/	Cwt.	14.60	16.70	--	14.30
Manufactured	Cwt.	9.20	12.90	--	12.40
Hog-Corn Ratios h/	Bu.	16.6	20.1	16.8	18.9

a/ Preliminary. **b/** Includes contract sales paid during month. **c/** Includes yellow and white corn. **d/** "Steers and heifers" and "cows" combined. **e/** 500 lbs. and over. **f/** Under 500 lbs. **g/** Includes surplus diverted to manufacturing. **h/** Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 lbs. of hog live weight.

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on October 31, 2001, were greater than year earlier levels for orange juice and turkeys.

All U. S. Warehouse Stocks				Oct. 01 as % of	
Commodity	Oct. 31, 2000	Sept. 30, 2001	Oct. 31, 2001	Oct. 2000	Sept. 2001
Frozen Poultry	1,000 lbs			Percent	
Chicken:					
Broilers (Whole)	32,154	22,308	21,541	67	97
Other Chicken	721,714	594,377	608,669	84	102
Total Chicken <u>1/</u>	762,482	624,866	636,182	83	102
Turkey	473,901	541,975	493,530	104	91
Total Frozen Poultry <u>2/</u>	1,240,948	1,176,974	1,139,008	92	97
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	404,394	382,764	402,941	100	105
Pork:					
Bellies	20,589	8,960	28,233	137	315
Total Frozen Pork <u>3/</u>	438,564	366,946	429,850	98	117
Total Meat <u>4/</u>	868,043	775,261	856,123	99	110

1/ Includes broilers, hens and other chickens. 2/ Includes chicken, turkey and ducks. 3/ Includes picnics, hams, bellies, loins, ribs, trimmings, and other frozen pork. 4/ Includes frozen beef, pork, veal, lamb and mutton, other frozen meat, canned hams, and other canned meat.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.26 billion pounds in October, up 4 percent from the 4.10 billion pounds produced in October 2000 and 164 million pounds above the previous record high set in 2000. October 2000 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. October 2001 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. Beef production, at 2.39 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the previous year and 43 million pounds above the previous record high set in 2000. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.16 million head, up 1 percent from October 2000. The average live weight was up 16 pounds from the previous year, at 1,247 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.84 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the previous year and also 121 million pounds above the previous record high set in 2000. Hog kill totaled 9.33 million head, 5 percent above October 2000. The average live weight was 5 pounds above the previous year, at 267 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 20 million pounds, was up 6 percent from October 2000. Sheep slaughter totaled 288,500 head, 3 percent above last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, up 3 pounds from October a year ago.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: UNITED STATES & KENTUCKY 1/

Type	October 2000	September 2001	October 2001	Oct. 01 as % of	
				October 2000	September 2001
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	2,345	2,120	2,388	102	113
Veal	18	15	18	98	120
Pork	1,717	1,513	1,838	107	121
Lamb & Mutton	18	16	20	106	120
Total U.S.	4,099	3,664	4,263	104	116
Total Kentucky	38.7	34.8	42.0	109	121

1/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. OCTOBER 2000 & 2001 1/

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	1.5	1.6	1,278	1,411	846	885
Hogs	192.5	210.0	50,685	55,052	263	262
Sheep & Lambs	0.9	0.8	148	117	171	144
United States						
Cattle	3,141.4	3,160.8	3,867,204	3,942,113	1,231	1,247
Hogs	8,882.1	9,330.0	2,331,502	2,487,615	262	267
Sheep & Lambs	278.9	288.5	37,349	39,630	134	137

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

U.S. HIRED WORKERS DOWN 2 PERCENT, WAGE RATES UP 3 PERCENT FROM A YEAR AGO

There were 1.22 million hired workers on the **Nation's** farms and ranches the week of October 7-13, 2001, 2 percent fewer than a year ago. There were 959,000 workers hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 262,000 workers. Migrant workers accounted for 12.1 percent of the October hired workforce, compared to 11.3 percent in October 2000.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$8.58 per hour during the October 2001 survey week, up 29 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.01 per hour, up 27

cents from last October. Livestock workers earned \$8.36 per hour compared with \$7.84 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate at \$8.08 was up 32 cents from last year.

The number of hired workers in the **3-State Region including Kentucky, West Virginia, and Tennessee** totaled 29,000 during the week of October 7-13, 2001.

Field workers in the region were paid \$7.04 per hour, compared to \$6.40 during the same period last year. Livestock workers were paid \$7.77 per hour compared to \$7.03 last year. The wage rate for all hired workers in the 3-State Region was \$7.59.

UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Oct. 2000	Oct. 2001	Oct. 2001 % of Oct. 2000
Egg Production			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,130	7,329	103
Average Layers (000)	328,178	336,345	102
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,173	2,179	100
Egg Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Nov 1 (000)	29,034	28,263	97
Chicks Hatched (000)	36,077	36,501	101
Broiler Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Nov 1 (000)	563,181	582,816	103
Chicks Hatched (000)	711,278	739,733	104

U. S. CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.9 million head on November 1, 2001. The inventory was 1,000 head below November 1, 2000 but 3 percent above November 1, 1999.

Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.69 million, 5 percent below 2000 and 14 percent below 1999. Net placements were 2.62 million. During October, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 889,000, 600-699 pounds were 755,000, 700-799 pounds were 589,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 459,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during October totaled 1.89 million, 2 percent below 2000 but 3 percent above 1999. **Other disappearance** totaled 68,000 during October, 3 percent above 2000 but 15 percent below 1999.

CATTLE ON FEED 7 STATES 1/

Cattle on feed November 1, 2001, in the 7 States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.2 million, up 39,000 head from the previous year and 5 percent above November 1, 1999.

Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.31 million, 3 percent below 2000 and 12 percent below 1999. **Marketings** during October totaled 1.63 million, 1 percent below 2000 but 4 percent above 1999. **Other disappearance** during October was 57,000 head, 14 percent above 2000 but 10 percent below 1999.

1/AZ, CA, CO, IA, KS, NE, and TX.

U.S. MILK PRODUCTION DOWN 0.2 PERCENT

Kentucky milk production for October 2001 totaled 130 million pounds, down 4 percent from October 2000 but up 5 percent from last month. Average number of cows on farms, at 126,000 head, was down 5,000 head from a year earlier and down 1,000 head from last month. Milk per cow averaged 1,030 pounds, down 10 pounds from October 2000 but up 55 pounds from September 2001.

Milk production in the **20 major States** during October totaled 11.8 billion pounds, down 0.2 percent

from October 2000. September revised production, at 11.4 billion pounds, was down 0.6 percent from September 2000. The September revision represented an increase of 0.1 percent or 15 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,526 pounds for October, 15 pounds above October 2000. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.72 million head, 95,000 head less than October 2000, and 1,000 head less than September 2001.

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION FOR OCTOBER, SELECTED STATES

STATE	Milk Cows <u>1/</u>		Milk Per Cow <u>2/</u>		Production <u>2/</u>		2001 as % of 2000
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,545	1,605	1,735	1,755	2,681	2,817	105
IL	119	114	1,400	1,390	167	158	95
IN	148	154	1,345	1,390	199	214	108
KY	131	126	1,040	1,030	136	130	96
MO	152	141	1,180	1,085	179	153	85
OH	264	256	1,360	1,375	359	352	98
VA	119	118	1,285	1,290	153	152	99
WI	1,336	1,281	1,430	1,430	1,910	1,832	96
20 State Total	7,817	7,722	1,511	1,526	11,813	11,785	100

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Internet Access: Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service (KASS) data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) homepage located at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

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